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SUNDAY JULY 14th**

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Store*	Administration Fee or Charge?	Extra Charge for Delivery?	Extra Charge for Set-up?	Extra Charge for Package Removal?	Extra Charge for Interior Design?	Commissioned Sales Staff?
The Brick	YES	YES	YES	YES	N/A	YES
Eaton's	YES	YES	NO	NO	N/A	YES
Leon's	YES	NO	YES	YES	N/A	YES
Sears	YES	YES	YES	YES	N/A	YES
<b>STONEY CREEK FURNITURE</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>

\* Research data obtained from independent source.

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Lewis Rd. and the QEW Service Rd., Stoney Creek, Ontario (between the Fruitland and Fifty Rd. exits off the QEW)

\*O.A.C. payment due July 2nd, 1997. No delivery charges, no administration fees. Full details in store.

All taxes payable at time of purchase. 25% deposit required on custom orders.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## Henry VIII, I am

King Henry VIII (Bill Huttel) and Lady Anne Boleyn (Danielle Denault) take a stroll through town promoting the Renaissance Festival. The medieval festival on Eighth Line will open for the summer July 6 and will be held for eight consecutive weekends, including the Civic Holiday.

## Crop prices will jump due to wet weather

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on half his designated acreage and has bags of otherwise useless seed sitting in his barn.

"It just hasn't been dry enough to get into the fields. Everyone's in the same boat."

Most seeds for cash crops such as soybeans, winter wheat and vegetables must be planted by the end of the month for a successful harvest, he added.

The strawberry harvest will be late due to extended winter weather and lack of sunshine, but should be plentiful, Mr. Andrews said. The big picking weekends will occur during the first two weeks of July instead of late June, he estimated. "Normally, most of the picking would be done by June 30."

Accumulated heat units, which determine how quickly crops mature, were only 40 per cent of the 30-year average to the end of May, said John Hughes, co-owner Springridge Farm.

That means a late blossom and, because it takes about 30 days from blossom to fruit, a late fruit ripening.

However, the cool spring did bring some benefits to strawberry growers, Mr. Hughes noted.

"Two of the special nuisance insects that damage the crop were deterred by the inclement spring weather. The insects that typically clip off the flowers or sting them and cause cat-facing of the fruit have been much less troublesome this year."

But the helpful insects are also diminished, he pointed out.

"There have been fewer naturally occurring bees," Mr. Hughes explained, "so we've had to bring in a number of hives to promote pollination of the strawberry flowers."

*"It just hasn't been dry enough to get into the fields. Everyone's in the same boat."*

— Bert Andrews



At Springridge, he said, the strawberry crop has wintered well. It has been covered with a layer of straw since last November and there was no late, damaging frost after the plants were uncovered in early April.

Mr. Andrews, who operates Andrews Scenic Acres, a pick-your-own farm on No. 10 Sideroad, said he fears that people who are used to picking berries in June may not come out in July due to other commitments, such as vacations.

"The concern is, are we going to get it picked?" However, recently-reported cases of contaminated California strawberries should give the Ontario strawberry industry a boost, he said.

Approximately 21 cases of illness, including one subsequent death, have been reported by Ontario residents after they ate strawberries imported from California.

Health officials say the contamination was caused by berry plants being irrigated with water full of parasites.

California berries have been pulled off store shelves in town and shopkeepers are waiting for local harvests, Mr. Andrews said.

"There's going to be a greater demand for Ontario berries."